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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/743,191	12/23/2003	Hironori Motoe	008312-0307437	7514

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EXAMINER

VIGUSHIN, JOHN B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2841

DATE MAILED: 12/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/743,191

Applicant(s)

MOTOE, HIRONORI

Examiner

John B. Vigushin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 6 and 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 9-11 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1203/23 Dec 2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On p.9, line 6: "tuber" should be changed to --tuner--.

On p.15, line 27, the Examiner is of the opinion that "multiplies" should be changed to --multiplexes--; and on p.16, line 2, "multiplied" should be changed to --multiplexed--.

On p.20, line 8: "TV tuner 211" should be changed to --RF module 211B--.

On p.20, line 8: "MPEG module 21" should be changed to --TV tuner 211--.

On p.20, lines 13-14, the Examiner believes that "'tuners/MPEG modules 21" should be changed to --tuners 211--. Or, does the Applicant also contemplate the MPEG modules 21 intentionally misaligned with each other as an alternative to the intentional misalignment of only the tuners 211? Then the change made on p.20, lines 13-14 should be --tuners 211 or MPEG modules 21--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 9 is objected to under 37 CFR § 1.75(a) because of the following informalities:

As to Claim 9, line 9 (on p.25, line 3 of the disclosure): "an toward direction to" renders the intended meaning indefinite. The Examiner believes that the intended meaning would be better served by replacing the above-cited phrase with another

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phrase, such as, —a direction toward—, or with another phrase that will clearly state the Applicant's contemplated claim limitation.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 5, 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kanai et al. (US 5,903,442).

As to Claim 5, Kanai et al. discloses, in Figs. 9A,B,C,D: a circuit board 1 (backplane); a first module 40 (Fig. 9C) mounted on circuit board 1 (Figs. 9A,B), and having a first input portion 20 to which an analog signal is inputted; a second module 40 (Fig. 9D) mounted on circuit board 1 (Figs. 9A,B), and having a second input portion 20 located in an opposite direction to the first input portion 20 (Figs. 9A,C,D) (col.8: 43-col.9: 2).

As to Claim 6, Kanai et al. further discloses the first and second modules 20 are each shaped like a rectangular parallelepiped and are arranged so that their longitudinal sides extend parallel with each other in opposite directions (Figs. 9A,B; col.5: 17-20; col.8: 45-48).

As to Claim 8, Kanai et al. further discloses the first and second modules 40 are arranged at an end of the circuit board (e.g., the first and second modules 40 at the right end of circuit board 1, as shown in Fig. 9B).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-4 have been allowed.

6. Claims 9-11 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the objection(s) under 37 CFR 1.75(a) set forth in this Office action.

7. Claim 7 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

As to Claims 1-4, patentability resides in *the second connecting portion located in an opposite direction to the first connecting portion*, in combination with the other limitations of base Claim 1.

As to Claim 7, patentability resides in the limitation wherein *the decoding portion is provided at a position away from a center of the module in either longitudinal direction*, in combination with the other limitations of the claim.

As to Claims 9-11 patentability resides in *the second connecting portion located in an opposite direction to the first connecting portion*, in combination with the other limitations of base Claim 9.

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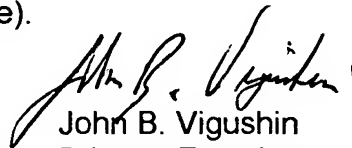
9. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's reply must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 CFR 1.111(b) and MPEP § 707.07(a).

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John B. Vigushin whose telephone number is 571-272-1936. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:00PM Mo-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kamand Cuneo can be reached on 571-272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


John B. Vigushin
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2841

jbv
December 08, 2005